

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 05177 281909Z

46

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IOE-00 NASA-04

SCI-06 DODE-00 L-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 OIC-04 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 PRS-01 PA-04 ACDA-19 DRC-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1555

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5177

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, PFOR, UN, UR

SUBJ: OUTER SPACE - SOVIET VIEWS ON AUSTRIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION

REFS: (A) STATE 231676, (B) USUN 5151

1. ORDZHONIKIDZE CALLED ON MISOFF TO CONVEY CONTENTS OF INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY SOVIET MISSION LATE LAST EVENING. WITH REGARD TO DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE ISSUE, USSR WISHES TO "ADOPT A CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH" AND WOULD THEREFORE NOT WANT TO INSIST THAT THE GA ADOPT A SEPARATE AND DETAILED RESOLUTION ON THE SUBJECT. ACCORDINGLY, THE USSR WOULD BE PREPARED TO AGREE, AS PROPOSED BY AUSTRIA, THAT THE "OMNIBUS" OUTER SPACE RES (LAYING OUT THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM FOR CALENDAR 74) SHOULD INCLUDE WHAT HAS BEEN AGREED IN THE OSC CONCERNING THE COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM FOR 1974. THE SOVIETS WOULD WANT TO SEE TWO IDEAS REFLECTED IN THE OMNIBUS TEXT, FIRST, A REQUEST THWT THE LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE SHOULD EXPEDITE ITS ELABORATION OF DBS PRINCIPLES, SECOND, THAT THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USUN N 05177 281909Z

SHOULD GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO THE CONSIDERATION OF

THIS ITEM. ORDZHONIKIDZE CONFIRMED THAT SUCH AN ASSIGNMENT OF PRIORITY WOULD LEAVE UNCHANGED THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE'S HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR COMPLETING THE LUNAR EXPLORATION AND REGISTRATION TREATIES (AS AGREED BY US AND OTHER OSC MEMBERS AND REFLECTED IN OSC REPORTL.

2. ON OSC ENLARGEMENT, MOSCOW CONSIDERS THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THE MATTER BEFORE THE GA TAKES ANY ACTION. THIS STUDY SHOULD NOT BE PRE-JUDGED, AS THE SOVIETS CONSIDER IT WOULD BE BY THE AUSTRIAN 7TH PREAMBULAR PARA; THIS SHOULD BE DELETED. FURTHER, THEIR PREFERENCE IS NOT TO SET A DEADLINE FOR THE OSC ENLARGEMENT STUDY, BUT THEY WOULD BE PREPARED, IF OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS INSIST, TO AGREE THAT THE OMNIBUS RES REQUIRE THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD REPORT TO THE GA NEXT YEAR.

3. DELOFF SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CONVEY THESE VIEWS TO WASHINGTON. WHEN HE OBSERVED THAT DBS AND ENLARGEMENT WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THE 5:00 INFORMAL MEETING OF OSC MEMBERS THIS AFTERNOON, ORDZHONIKIDZE CONFIRMED THAT SOVIET IDEAS WOULD HAVE TO BE SURFACED AT THAT TIME; HOWEVER, THE SOVIET MISSION WOULD NOT BE INFORMING OTHERS IN ADVANCE EXCEPT FOR EE'S. STRESSING HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY ONLY, MISOFF SAID HE BELIEVED WASHINGTON WOULD WELCOME THE SOVIET DECISION TO APPROACH GA CONSIDERATION OF DBS IN A MANNER DESIGNED TO AVOID UNNECESSARY CONFRONTATION; WHILE ATTENTION WOULD HAVE TO BE PAID TO DRAFTING ASPECTS, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO TINKER WITH THE AUSTRIAN OMNIBUS PROPOSAL IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ACCOMMODATE SOVIET VIEWS WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING POSITIONS OF USG. WITH REGARD TO ENLARGEMENT, AS WOULD BE SEEN FROM US STATEMENT AT 26 NOV INFORMAL OSC MEETING (REF (B)), US AND USSR VIEWS APPEARED TO BE ENTIRELY COMPATIBLE.

4. COMMENT. SOVIET APPROACH ON DBS APPEARS TO BE GENUINELY POSITPVE. OF COURSE EVEN IF SOVIETS PROVE REASONABLE, OTHERS SUCH AS BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, MEXICO, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USUN N 05177 281909Z

FRANCE AND IRAN, WHO HAVE STRONGLY URGED EXPEDITING DBS "LEGAL PRINCIPLES" IN TREATY FORM, MAY GIVE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFICULTY. NEVERTHELESS, SOFTENING OF SOVIET POSITION IS MOST ENCOURAGING. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, WE WOULD PLAN AT THE 5:00 P.M. MEETING TO WORK (A) TOWARD AVOIDING SEPARATE AND DETAILED DBS RESOLUTION AND (B) FOR DBS PROVISIONS IN OMNIBUS TEXT THAT WOULD MAINTAIN POSITION AGREED

TO BY US AND INCORPORATED IN PARA 28 OF OSC REPORT
WHILE SEEKING TO ACCOMMODATE SOVIET DESIRE FOR
"EXPEDITION" AND APPROPRIATE "PRIORITY" FOR DBS.
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